

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's attention to the above referenced application. Claims 1-14 were rejected. Claims 15-21 were allowed. Claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-21 are now pending, of which claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent.

35 USC § 101 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 as not falling within one of the four statutory categories of invention. Applicants have amended claim 1 and believe that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-7 be allowed to pass to issuance.

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 because the claimed invention was indicated to be directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants believe that the intention was to reject claims 8-14 in this case, and Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 8 and believe that claims 1 and 8 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that claims 1 and 8 and their respective dependent claims 2-7 and 9-14 be allowed to pass to issuance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that Claims 15-21 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claim 15 has been amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the remarks and amendments set forth above. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (512) 732-1303. Please charge any shortage of fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0221 and please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 11/18/09

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